(d) Measures taken to promote export of tea include higher cash compensatory support on value added teas, full rebate of excise duty on exports of packet teas exemption of excise duty on tea bags, exemption of customs duty on filter paper used in manufacture of tea bags etc.

Report of the Enquiry Committee on fire in Hotel Siddarath

1686. SHRI DINKARRAO GOVINDRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether enquiry into the death of persons in fire in Hotel Siddarath, Delhi has since been completed;

(b) if so, what are the details of the report and when it was submitted to Government; and

(c) what action has been taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) to (c) The Khanna Commission of Inquiry, which was appointed to inquire into the incident of fire at Hotel Siddhartha Continental, submitted its report on 13th March, 1986. The Report of the Commission alongwith the memorandum of action taken on the various recommendations made by it was laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha on the 18th November, 1986.

The recommendations of the Commission include modernisation of Delhi Fire Service with new equipment/appliances training organisational control, raising of funds, creating fire safey cell etc.

The recommendations made by the Commission have been generally accepted and their implementation has been taken up. Delhi Administration has already taken action to fix individual responsibility.

A grant of Rs. 11.83 crores spread over 2 years has been sanctioned for improvement of Delhi Fire Service. This is to cover the purchase of equipment and appliances and setting up of 5 new fire stations and under-ground water static tanks.

The management of the high-rise buildings which have been found to be deficient in fire safety/protection measures, have been given a directive to make provisions like 6 mtrs. approach water storage, automatic sprinkler system, fire alarm, public address system, exit signs, emergency power supply, fire fighting equipment etc. Under the Delhi Fire Prevention and Fire Safety Act, 1986, recently enacted, penalty of imprisonment and fine can be imposed if the directions of the Chief Fire Officer are not carried out.

Letter of intent for Cooperative Spinning Mill in Orissa

@1686-A. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a letter of intent has been issued for establishment of a cooperative spinning mill in 'No-industry district' of Balasore in Orissa; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for delay in implementation of the project?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Orissa Government have stated that the loan application of the mill company has been turned down by the Industrial Development Bank of India on the ground that excess spinning capacity has already been created in the country.

National Safety Council

@@1686-B. SHRI K.G. MAHESHWARAPPA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government gives a grant of only Rs. 600|- lakhs to National Safety Council per year;

@Previously Unstarred Question 1414, transferred from the 4th May, 1987.

@@Previously Unstarred Question 1437, transferred from the 4th May, 1987.